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**Introduced by Senator Ducheny**

February 21, 2003

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An act relating to employment.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 817, as introduced, Ducheny. Employment: Employment Training Panel.

Existing law establishes an employment training program, to promote a healthy labor market in a growing competitive economy, that funds training projects that meet certain criteria. The Employment Training Panel, within the Employment Development Department, is responsible for administering the program.

This bill would set forth legislative findings and declarations, and would state the intent of the Legislature to require the Employment Training Panel to address the shortage of nurses in California, in light of the changing operational aspects of health care.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares the  
2 following:

3 (a) The Employment Training Panel was created to help  
4 provide financial assistance to California businesses to promote,  
5 develop, and provide training programs for the purpose of  
6 providing workers with skills that would allow them to increase  
7 their earning potential and make California more competitive in

1 the global economy, and to promote the importance of having a  
2 highly trained workforce.

3 (b) While the California economy is slowing, technology  
4 continues to change the operational aspects of many industries.  
5 The Employment Training Panel's programs are a valuable  
6 resource for businesses that wish to provide high-level training to  
7 their employees so that they may keep up with these changes and  
8 help keep California competitive.

9 (c) At the same time that the medical field is continually  
10 evolving, in part due to technological advances, California faces  
11 a shortage of nurses.

12 (d) Many businesses do not apply for funding from the  
13 Employment Training Panel because of the lengthy and  
14 cumbersome application process.

15 SEC. 2. It is the intent of the Legislature to require the  
16 Employment Training Panel to address the shortage of nurses in  
17 California, in light of the changing operational aspects of health  
18 care.

